

## RUSSIANS FORM INDEPENDENT CHURCH ON NORTHWEST SIDE

Declaring the Russian Orthodox church, the Greek Catholic church, to be a spiritual police department used by the czar and the holy synod to keep the people submissive, ignorant and helpless, a little group of Russians got together on the Northwest Side a few months ago.

These men organized the first Independent Orthodox Russian church ever established. The church holds to the same rites and rituals as the mother church, but second to the spiritual welfare of the people it considers the educational welfare of the people.

Today this church has 500 members who have appointed a board of trustees to operate it. Last Sunday they had a funeral. While the congregation was in the church the hearse was filled with circulars purporting to be a statement by the Russian counsel of Chicago declaring that the congregation of this church could never go back to Russia.

These same circulars have been thrown about the neighborhood for months, but still the congregation comes to church.

Many years ago the Russians of Chicago organized a church. Father Vladimir Alexandroff was sent to them as a priest. He turned over the church to his archbishop. Then the debt on the church began to increase. Father Alexandroff began to charge more to perform weddings and christenings and for his services at funerals.

A committee asked him to account for the money he was collecting. He promised to do so from the pulpit. In the Russian church no one must speak but the priest, and when Father Alexandroff told the people how he collected the money with his right hand and gave it away with his left they began to talk among themselves.

"Aren't you satisfied?" he asked. "No," shouted the congregation, and the father turned in a riot call.

One hundred people were arrested, and when they came up in court he denied that they were his parishioners, saying that he never saw them before.

This caused the organization of the new church.

Father Timothy Peshkoff was chosen priest by the people and was ordained by Archbishop Villatte of the Old Catholic Orthodox church over the protest of Archbishop Evdokim of the Russian Orthodox Catholic church.

The independent church is located at Wood and Walton streets. Next to it is a tiny schoolhouse where three days a week Russian is taught to the children and English is taught the grown-ups. Father Peshkoff preaches a regular sermon on Sunday and then there is an illustrated lecture.

Dr. M. Salud lectures on hygiene, Jan Sokolov tells of Russian history, Att'y Damon Orlovsky talks on United States laws.

"Our aim is to educate the Russian immigrant in this country and to make him a U. S. citizen," Father Peshkoff told a Day Book reporter. "Our congregation is growing and our volunteer lecturers are visiting the Russian colonies around Chicago, giving their messages of knowledge and at the same time bringing the message of the church."

## CINE FORMS ON THE RIGHT

We made a mistake some time back when we stated that Ben Whorton and Miss Mary Vinson were married. It was Allen Wharton and Miss Mary Vinson. Ben is just looking for a chance.—Russellville (Ark.) Courier-Democrat.

Netherlands, financially speaking, is like a little bank squeezed in the heart of Wall street where it is kind of handy like. The little Dutch kingdom contains more gold than ever before in its history and its banks are simply running over with money since the war started.